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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/070,965	03/13/2002	Franz Blaimschein	BLAIMSCHEIN -29 PCT	4866

7590 08/14/2003

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EXAMINER

CHARLES, MARCUS

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3682

DATE MAILED: 08/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/070,965

Applicant(s)

BLAIMSCHEIN, FRANZ

Examiner

Marcus Charles

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 March 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This is the first action relating to application serial number 10/070,965 filed 03/13/2002.

Claims 4-6 are currently pending.

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. The draftsman has approved the drawing filed with this application as formal drawing.
3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "toothed-belt" as in claims 4-6, must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

Abstract

4. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the claimed invention is not directed to a tooth belt and a toothed belt does not have a toothed body. It is suggested to delete reference to the toothed belt from the abstract. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

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5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: in the background of the invention, it is not appropriate to include the invention relates to a toothed belt. In addition, as in page 2, it is not clear as to how a toothed belt can be provided with wheel spokes, hub and a rim wheel. Appropriate correction is required.

6. The title of the invention is not descriptive because the claimed invention are not directed a toothed-belt. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

7. Claim 5 objected to because of the following informalities: In line 1, "4." Should be --4,-- and in line 2, "neck"-zone" should be --neck-zone--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Johncox et al.(4,367,068). Johncox et al. discloses a sprocket assembly comprising a wheel hub (100), which carries a transmitting wheel ring (10), the transmitting ring is provided with inwardly projecting shoulders (56) than can be attached to supports (70) that are distributed over the inner circumference of the wheel and form an axial support for the transmitting wheel.

In claim 5, the supports are provided in the neck-zone of the spokes (not labeled).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claim 6 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johncox et al. in view of Grundner et al.(6,090,230). The device of Johncox et al. cannot be spot welded because the ring is made from plastic material. Grundner et al. discloses a sprocket and ring combination made from sintered powdered material that can be spot welded together in order to increase the strength and wear resistance of the sprocket. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the sprocket and ring of Johncox et al. so that they are made from a material than can be spot welded in view of Grunder et al. in order to increase the strength and wear resistance of the sprocket.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kiser, Jr. (4,078,445), Addicks (4,144,773), Anthony (1,433,923) and Mason, Jr. (763,993) discloses a sprocket wheel having inward projecting shoulders connected to a transmitting ring. Nakagomi et al. (6,099,426) discloses a


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sprocket wheel assembly comprising a spoked wheel and a transmitting ring (flanged plate 15) attached to the sprocket.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marcus Charles whose telephone number is (703) 305-6877. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Thursday 7:30 am-600 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Bucci can be reached on (703) 308-3668. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3597 for regular communications and (703) 305-3597 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.


Marcus Charles
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3682
August 6, 2003